



Bulletin

2012-04B

MUNICIPAL LAW SEMINAR

TO: Assessors, Collectors, Treasurers, Accountants, Auditors, Mayors, Selectmen, City/Town Managers, Finance Directors, Finance Committees, City/Town Councils, City Solicitors and Town Counsels

FROM: Robert G. Nunes, Deputy Commissioner and Director of Municipal Affairs

DATE: August 2012

SUBJECT: "What's New in Municipal Law" Seminar

The Division of Local Services Legal Staff will offer the seminar "What's New in Municipal Law" on Tuesday, October 2, 2012 at The Log Cabin Banquet & Meeting House in Holyoke and Friday, October 5, 2012 at The Lantana in Randolph. Presentations will include new legislation and recent court decisions pertaining to local government. This *Bulletin* contains a program description (page 2) and a registration form (page 3).

The general session in the morning will be conducted by attorneys Kathleen Colleary, Chief of the Bureau of Municipal Finance Law, Gary Blau, James Crowley, John Gannon and Donald Gorton. The afternoon session will consist of three concurrent workshops from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. These workshops will be small group meetings, led by the Bureau of Municipal Finance Law attorneys.

The attorneys of the Bureau of Municipal Finance Law are specialists in municipal law, particularly in property taxation and finance. The legal staff interprets new laws and responds to the legal concerns of local officials.

A registration fee of **\$50.00 per person** will be charged to cover the cost of the facility, morning refreshments and luncheon. Please contact Donna Quinn at (617) 626-3838 with any questions regarding registration.

I hope you will have the opportunity to join us at this timely and informative seminar.

The Division of Local Services is responsible for oversight of and assistance to cities and towns in achieving equitable property taxation and efficient fiscal management. The Division regularly publishes IGRs (Informational Guideline Releases detailing legal and administrative procedures) and the Bulletin (announcements and useful information) for local officials and others interested in municipal finance.

AGENDA

REGISTRATION: 8:15 AM - 9:00 AM
Continental Breakfast

OPENING REMARKS: 9:00 AM - 9:15 AM
Robert Nunes, Deputy Commissioner of the Division of Local Services

GENERAL SESSION: 9:15 AM - 12:15 PM
WHAT'S NEW IN MUNICIPAL LAW
The Division of Local Services Legal Staff presents the latest from the Legislature and the Courts.

LUNCHEON: 12:15 PM - 1:30 PM
Menu: Salad, Entrée, Chef's Selection of Starch and Vegetables, Coffee/Tea and Dessert

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

There are three concurrent workshops. You may attend **one** workshop. Please indicate your preference on the attached registration form.

Workshop A **Local Taxes.** A review of current local tax assessment and collection issues, including assessment of undeclared phased condominiums and action on abatement and exemption applications under the open meeting law.

Workshop B **Local Finances.** A discussion of current municipal finance and accounting issues, including the amended Community Preservation Act, new compensated absences fund and recurring enterprise and other special fund issues.

Workshop C **Local Governance.** An exploration of home rule issues, including charter changes, home rule petitions and bylaws/ordinances related to municipal tax and finance officers and procedures.

Morning presentation slides and afternoon workshop materials will be distributed at the seminars.

Reference books with morning legislation and cases will be available online before the seminars.

Materials distributed at the morning and afternoon sessions will also be available online after the seminars.

Please submit your completed registration form along with a check for \$50 made payable to the

Commonwealth of Massachusetts to:

**TRAINING COORDINATOR
DIVISION OF LOCAL SERVICES
PO BOX 9569
BOSTON, MA 02114-9569**

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED (NO WALK-INS)
CASH, CREDIT CARDS AND PURCHASE ORDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

RECEIPTS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANYONE PAYING BY PERSONAL CHECK.

PLEASE CONTACT DONNA QUINN AT 617-626-3838 WITH ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS SEMINAR

WHAT'S NEW IN MUNICIPAL LAW SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

NAME

POSITION

COMMUNITY OR COMPANY

(_____)
PHONE NUMBER

E-MAIL ADDRESS

SEMINAR DATES AND LOCATIONS

Please indicate ("X") which location you will be attending

CHECKS MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO: COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

_____ **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2012**

HOLYOKE, MA

THE LOG CABIN BANQUET & MEETING HOUSE

500 EASTHAMPTON ROAD

HOLYOKE, MA

413-535-5077

[Directions to The Log Cabin](#)

_____ **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2012**

RANDOLPH, MA

THE LANTANA

43 SCANLON DRIVE

RANDOLPH, MA

781-961-4660

[Directions to The Lantana](#)

Mail the entire completed form and \$50 registration fee to:

Training Coordinator

Division of Local Services

PO Box 9569

Boston, MA 02114-9569

The morning is a general session for everyone. Please choose ("X") one afternoon workshop:

_____ **Workshop A Local Taxes.** A review of current local tax assessment and collection issues, including assessment of undeclared phased condominiums and action on abatement and exemption applications under the open meeting law.

_____ **Workshop B Local Finances.** A discussion of current municipal finance and accounting issues, including the amended Community Preservation Act, new compensated absences fund and recurring enterprise and other special fund issues.

_____ **Workshop C Local Governance.** An exploration of home rule issues, including charter changes, home rule petitions and bylaws/ordinances related to municipal tax and finance officers and procedures.

REGISTRATIONS ARE DUE BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2012

REGISTRATIONS IN ADVANCE REQUIRED (NO WALK-INS)

CASH, CREDIT CARDS AND PURCHASE ORDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Please contact Donna Quinn at 617-626-3838 with any questions regarding this seminar